



# St. Martin's Anglican Church

December 12, 2021

10:00 AM

The Third Sunday of Advent

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Greeters/Sidespersons: Peter Davidson, Dave Bowen, John Loftus

The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Wendat, the Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nation, the Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-sho-nee) Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog (skoo-gog), Hiawatha (hi-ah-wah-tha) and Alderville First Nations and the Métis (may-tee) Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. We recognize and deeply respect their historic connection to this place. We also recognize the contributions that Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening this city in particular, and our province and country as a whole.

Celebrant: The Rev. Shelly Pollard

Prelude    *Procession (Suite in Classic Style)*, Charles Callahan (b. 1950)

## Prayer for the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sentence: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

## Opening Hymn #98 vs. 1, 3, & 4    Hark the Glad Sound!

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

Christ comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and from the treasuries of grace  
to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved name.

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God,

*People* **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you  
no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.

### The Collect

God of power and mercy,  
you call us once again

to celebrate the coming of your Son.  
Remove those things which hinder love of you,  
that when he comes,  
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder  
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading Zephaniah 3.14-20**

Reader: Joe Moore

A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah:

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle 3 (Isaiah 12.2-6)**

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

### **Second Reading   Philippians 4.4-7**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Gospel Reading Luke 3.7-18**

*Reader* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who

is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Christ.

*People*     **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*Celebrant* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

***All*            I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Intercessor: Joe Moore

**Confession & Absolution**

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners  
and invites them to his table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Most merciful God,

*All* **we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,**

**that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

### **Offertory Hymn #108, vs. 1, 2, & 5 Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding**

Hark, a herald voice is sounding:  
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say.  
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the everlasting Spirit,  
While eternal ages run.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

*Celebrant* God of hope,  
renew in us the joy of your salvation  
and make us a living sacrifice to you,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Eucharistic Prayer 2**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,  
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,  
our Saviour and Redeemer.  
He is your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit  
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary  
and shared our human nature.  
He lived and died as one of us,  
to reconcile us to you,  
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will  
he stretched out his hands in suffering,  
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;  
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,  
and to give up his life on the cross,  
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,  
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.  
By his resurrection  
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices  
to proclaim the glory of your name.

*All*      **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious God,  
accept our praise,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
who on the night he was handed over  
to suffering and death,  
took bread and gave you thanks,  
saying, "Take, and eat:

this is my body which is broken for you.”  
In the same way he took the cup,  
saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you.  
When you do this, you do it in memory of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,  
we offer you this bread and this cup,  
giving thanks that you have made us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit  
upon the offering of your holy Church.  
Gather into one  
all who share in these sacred mysteries,  
filling them with the Holy Spirit  
and confirming their faith in the truth,  
that together we may praise you  
and give you glory  
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,  
Father and Son,  
with the Holy Spirit  
in the holy Church,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*All*            **Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Silence*

### **Breaking of Bread 5**

*Celebrant*    God of promise,  
                  you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

*All:*            **Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

### **The Communion**

**Agnus Dei (whispered quietly)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the People of God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion** *(for those who choose not to receive Communion, or are following the service online)*

*Celebrant* Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion by joining in this prayer with me now:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*You are free to leave after receiving the Sacrament, or saying the Prayer for Spiritual Communion, if you wish. Go forth with God's grace and blessing. We will continue with the service for those who wish to remain.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant* Merciful God,  
may this eucharist free us from our sins,  
fill us with unending joy,  
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Doxology & Blessing**

*Celebrant* Glory to God,  
*All* **whose power, working in us,**

**can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
In the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* The peace of God which passes all understanding  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge  
and love of God and of his Son,  
Jesus Christ the Lord.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
remain with you and the ones you love  
now and forevermore. **Amen.**

## **Announcements**

**Closing Hymn #102** Prepare the Way, O Zion

Prepare the way, O Zion,  
your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley  
a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.

Refrain:

O blest is Christ who came  
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom,

and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
your Saviour's rule embrace,  
and tidings of salvation  
proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him,  
their voices will adore him. [Refrain]

*Celebrant* Go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Partita*, Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

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# Announcements

**Important reminders** – We are grateful to continue in-person worship together. We will continue to follow Diocesan guidelines during our services: screening, masks, and physical distancing are mandatory. We will continue to have our virtual coffee hour on Zoom (see link below.) \*\*Please note that as COVID-19 numbers change, we may have to return to online services.

**A Service of Comfort and Hope** – On **Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, in person and on Zoom**, we will offer a service of prayer and reflection for those who are having difficulty experiencing the joys of the season. The registration link will be sent out on Monday, or you may register by calling the office. If you cannot attend in person, you may still join us at this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83292139957>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.  
Meeting ID: 832 9213 9957

**Christmas Social on Zoom** – Please join us on **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM** to enjoy an hour of Christmas cheer with your friends from St. Martin's! The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87996588217>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.  
Meeting ID: 879 9658 8217

**Christmas Wish Tree** – St. Martin's Social Justice Group has teamed up with **Dar's Gifts from the Heart** to help a few people in our local community who are experiencing increased needs this Christmas season. We will be participating in the "Adopt-a-Family" and the "Adopt-a-Friend" initiative, **supporting people who belong to the age groups that are most often overlooked during the holidays**. Darlene has provided profiles of one family and two individuals. There will be a Gift Card Tree set up at the back of the church beginning on Sunday, December 5. If you wish to participate, please select a tag, shop for the gift card and then drop your purchase, including a gift receipt and the tag off at the church, no later than **Sunday, December 19**. If you find shopping difficult, you may consider a monetary donation to this initiative. Please join us as we help make this season a bit brighter for others in the community.

**Family profile for "Adopt-a-Family":**

Single mom (she is battling cancer)

Son, 18

Daughter, 16

Son, 10

Daughter, 8

**Individual profiles for “Adopt-a-Friend”:**

Claudia (mid-40s): No family nearby; a lonely Christmas for her

Allan: A kind and lonely man who would like a few treats and warm clothes to help brighten the season

If you have any questions, please contact Rob Mackay.

**2022 Church Calendars** – A few calendars are still available at the back of the church for \$7.

**\*\*Change to this Week’s Midweek Service on Zoom** – Our midweek service will take place on Zoom on **Tuesday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:40 AM**. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82287913027>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.

Meeting ID: 822 8791 3027

**Virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom** – Our Virtual Coffee Hour is back at 12:30 pm on Zoom! Link to participate: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86160988368>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.

Meeting ID: 861 6098 8368

\*\*Please note that there will be no coffee hour on December 19<sup>th</sup> or December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Advent and Christmas at St. Martin’s, 2021**

<b>Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7 PM</b>	A Service of Comfort and Hope (in person and on Zoom)
<b>Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4 PM</b>	Christmas Social (on Zoom)
<b>Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7 PM</b>	Christmas Eve service (in person)
<b>Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10 AM</b>	Christmas Day service (in person)
<b>Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10 AM</b>	First Sunday after Christmas service (in person)

**St. Martin’s Anglican Church**

**The Rev. Shelly Pollard, Incumbent**

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Richard Newland  
Rector’s Warden: Michelle Loftus  
People’s Warden: Brent Levy  
Deputy Wardens: Eugene Farrugia  
Erna Haller

Mr. Edward Moroney, Music Director  
Ms. Gillian Howard, Office Administrator  
Ms. Janis Lynch, Sunday School Leader  
Ms. Moyah Morgan, Youth Leader

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